



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 1999

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
Killed	Injured								

### ILLINOIS, South

**ILZ087-091>094**

**Gallatin - Hardin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac**

**09 0300CST**  
**18 2200CST**

**0**

**0**

**Flood**

Two organized storm systems moved out of the southern Plains on the 5th and 6th and the 8th and 9th. Total rainfall from these two storms averaged between 1 and 2 inches. Although not excessive, this was enough rainfall to cause minor flooding of the Ohio River at most points on the Illinois shore. At Shawneetown, where flood stage is 33 feet, the crest of 36.5 feet occurred on March 12. Crests at Brookport, Grand Chain, and Cairo were all less than a foot and a half above flood stage. Some agricultural lowland was flooded.

**ILZ084**

**Jackson**

**10 0200CST**  
**22 2200CST**

**0**

**0**

**Flood**

Two organized storm systems, one on the 5th and 6th and the other on the 8th and 9th, produced a combined rainfall total of 1 to 2 inches. This was sufficient to push the Big Muddy River 1 to 3 feet above flood stage. Flood stage at Murphysboro is 16 feet, and the crest of 18.35 feet occurred on March 19. This resulted in minor flooding of bottomlands. No residences or structures were threatened.

**ILZ075>078-080>086-088>089-092>093**

**Jefferson - Wayne - Edwards - Wabash - Perry - Franklin - Hamilton - White - Jackson - Williamson - Saline - Union - Johnson - Alexander - Pulaski**

**14 0100CST**  
**1200CST**

**0**

**0**

**Heavy Snow**

A major snowstorm dumped as much as a foot of snow over parts of far southern Illinois. The hardest hit area was the Marion-Carbondale area, where 11 to 12 inches was measured. Because most of the precipitation fell as rain further south, little if any snow occurred from Metropolis to Shawneetown along the Ohio River. There was a sharp division between no snow and heavy snow. For example, in Johnson County (between Metropolis and Carbondale), accumulations ranged from 1 inch in the southeast corner to 7 inches in the northwest corner of the county. The swath of heaviest snow extended from Carbondale to Mount Carmel, where 9 to 12 inches fell. Other totals included 8 inches in Mount Vernon and Du Quoin, and 4 inches between Cairo and Anna. Snowfall rates were 1 to 2 inches per hour for several hours. This overtaxed the ability of most road crews to keep up with removal efforts. Interstate 57 was closed in the vicinity of Interstate 24 for several hours Sunday due to stranded tractor trailer rigs. In Johnson County, at least 30 vehicles slid off roads near Goreville. Drifting snow hampered road crews, forcing them to make several passes through previously cleared roads. Four-wheel drive vehicles and tractors were in high demand as smaller vehicles became stuck. Scattered power outages were reported due to heavy wet snow on power lines. Many schools cancelled classes the day following the storm. Many churches cancelled Sunday morning services. Carbondale's University Mall closed for the day. Numerous accidents occurred on area roadways, including Interstates 57 and 64. Only a few involved injuries. Rapidly warming temperatures began to melt the snow quickly within 48 hours.

### INDIANA, Southwest

**INZ085**

**Posey**

**11 0400CST**  
**14 2100CST**

**0**

**0**

**Flood**

Two storm systems, one on the 5th and 6th and the other on the 8th and 9th, produced a total rainfall of 1 to 2 inches. This was sufficient to push the Wabash River slightly above flood stage at New Harmony. The river crested less than 6 inches above flood stage, which produced only minor overflow into agricultural bottomlands.

**INZ081>082-085>086**

**Gibson - Pike - Posey - Vanderburgh**

**14 0200CST**  
**1200CST**

**0**

**0**

**Heavy Snow**

Heavy snow, between 4 and 8 inches, fell over parts of southwest Indiana away from the Ohio River. Close to the river, the precipitation fell mainly in the form of rain. There was a sharp division between little snow and heavy snow. Amounts ranged from just an inch or so in the Rockport area of Spencer County to as much as 8 or 9 inches in the Princeton area of Gibson County. In Evansville, amounts were near 4 inches.

### KENTUCKY, Southwest

**Marshall County**

**1 E Benton**

**02 1756CST**

**0**

**0**

**Funnel Cloud**

A short-lived funnel cloud was observed.

**Mccracken County**

**Paducah**

**02 1802CST**

**0**

**0**

**20K**

**Lightning**

Lightning started a house fire.



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### MISSOURI, Southeast

MOZ076-086>087-100-  
107>111

Perry - Bollinger - Cape Girardeau - Wayne - Carter - Ripley - Butler - Stoddard - Scott

13 2300CST  
14 1200CST

0 0

Heavy Snow

A major snowstorm dumped 12 to 15 inches of snow over parts of southeast Missouri. The precipitation fell mainly as rain near the Bootheel, so little if any snow was reported from New Madrid to Charleston. There was a sharp division between heavy snow and no snow at all. Only one county to the northwest of New Madrid, 5 to 7 inches of snow fell from Dexter and Bloomfield to Benton. The jackpot of snow totals extended from Perryville and northern Cape Girardeau County to Greenville in Wayne County. In this area, where the rain changed to snow the soonest, around 14 inches of wet snow fell. Snowfall rates were 1 to 2 inches per hour for several hours. This overtaxed the ability of most road crews to keep up with removal efforts. Relatively few travel problems were reported, mainly because the storm occurred on a Sunday morning, a time of relatively light traffic flow. Those vehicles that were on the roads encountered treacherous conditions. Several accidents occurred in Cape Girardeau. Some vehicles became stuck in drifts in areas that received a foot or more of snow. Many school systems, including Cape Girardeau, were closed the day after the storm. Many businesses were closed. Rapidly warming temperatures melted the snow quickly within 48 hours.